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BUCKLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1955

BUCKLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman - Mr. A. Pennington, J.P.
Vice Chairman - Mr. W.J. Johnson.

Members of the Council

Mr. W. Baldwin	Mr. T. Hickson
Mrs. S. Barr	Mr. S.B.K. Jackson
Mr. J. Beckett (elected May 1955)	Mr. W.J. Jackson (elected May 1955)
Mr. C.L.S. Cornwall-Legh, J.P.	Mrs. A.M. Jones (" Sept. ")
Mr. A.E. Crimes	Mr. S. Morton, J.P.
Mr. T. Croft (resigned August 1955)	Mr. F.J. Pratt
Mr. A. Dale	Mr. R.C. Richardson
Mr. T. Davies	Mr. J.B. Thornton (elected May 1955)
Mr. J.A. Done	Mr. J.G. Wainwright, J.P.
Mr. J. Ford.	Mr. T.S. Wright.

The work of the Health Department is administered by the following Committees.

1. Special Services Committee

Chairman - Mr. S. Morton, J.P.
Vice Chairman - Mr. C.L.S. Cornwall-Legh, J.P.

The Committee comprises the whole Council and is responsible for the refuse and night-soil collection services, for rodent control, and all water supply and sewerage schemes.

2. Public Health Committee

Chairman - Mr. A. Pennington, J.P.
Vice Chairman - Mr. W. Baldwin

The Committee comprises the whole Council, and is responsible for all public health matters except the services administered by the Special Services Committee.

Staff of the Health Department

Medical Officer of Health

Donald Longbottom, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

H.G. Milburn, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H., Cert. Insp. of Meat and other Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector

R. Egan, M.S.I.A., Cert. Insp. of Meat and other Foods.

Clerk-Typist

Miss B.A. Clarke.

BUCKLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health Department,
Dunham Mount,
Dunham Road,
ALTRINCHAM.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bucklow Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my report for the year 1955.

The vital statistics show some changes from previous years. Both the total births (215) and total deaths (131) are higher than in 1954 when the figures were 187 and 112 respectively. The most unsatisfactory figure is the number of deaths (8) of infants under the age of 1 year. This is as high as the average in the pre-war years viz. 1936-1940. It is most likely to be due to fortuitous circumstances and perhaps compensates for the fact that last year there was only 1 such death. The two years taken together give only a slightly higher average than that of recent years. In fact 6 of the 8 infant deaths are due to conditions associated with pre-natal development and prematurity. As yet we have no means of anticipating or preventing these.

There was no undue incidence of the epidemic infectious diseases.

The year has seen further progress in the control of the caravans and hutments in the Pickmere area, a further 29 having been demolished or removed and it is anticipated that progress will continue to be made in 1956. From the original total of 341 structures the number has been reduced to 260 including 25 new caravans in substitution for others.

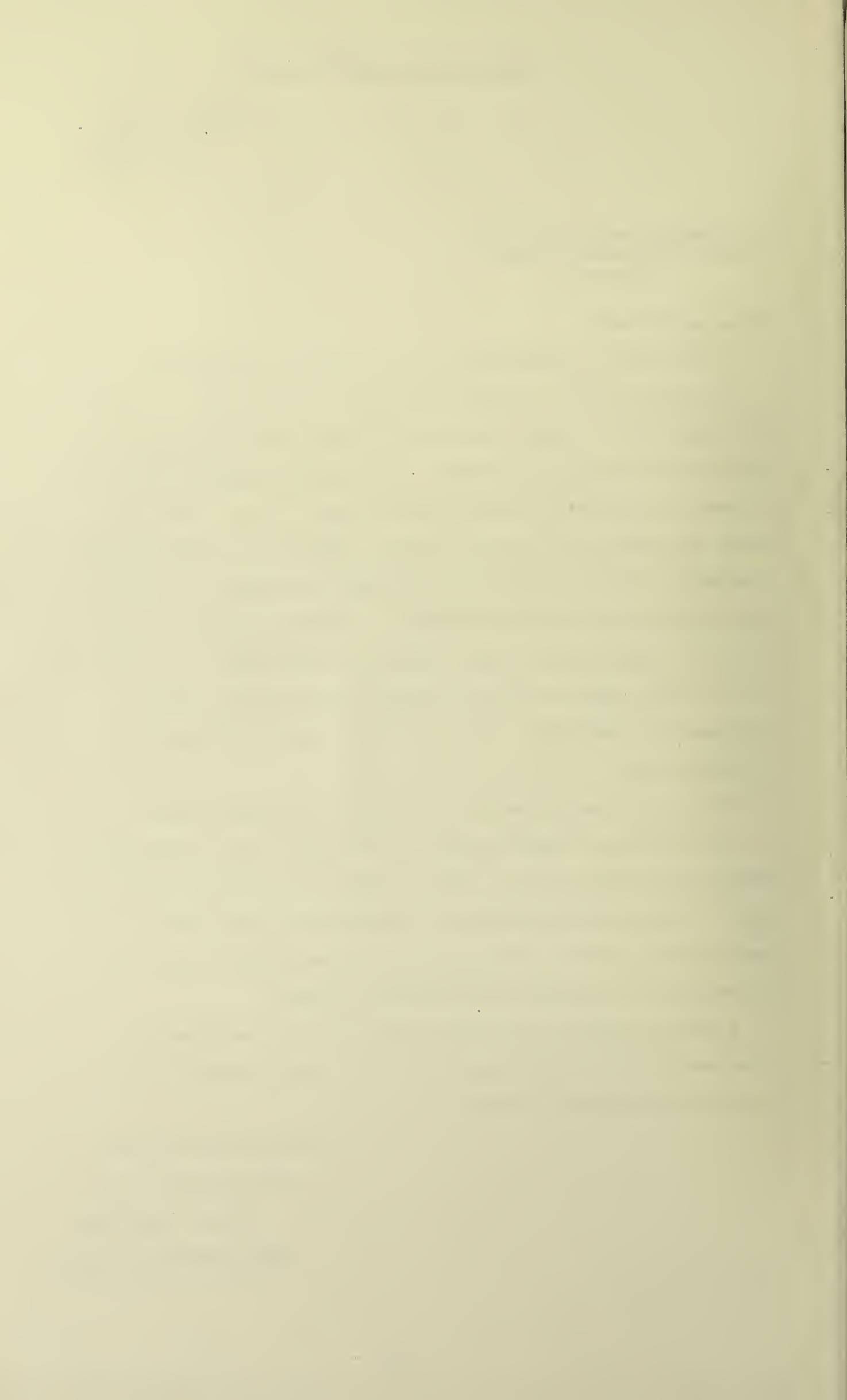
I wish to express my appreciation of the interest shown by members in the work of the Health Department and of the courtesy extended to me at all times by the Council's officers.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Donald Longbottom,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District in acres	46,103.
Registrar General's estimate of home population (mid year)	11,990.
Population (1951 Census)	11,170.
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books	3,596.
Rateable Value	£83,375.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£455.

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births (legitimate)	107	101	208
(illegitimate)	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>110</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>215</u>
Still Births (legitimate)	3	1	4
(illegitimate)	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
Deaths from all causes	79	52	131

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 living (standardised)	19.00	16. 7
General Birth Rate (England and Wales)	15.00	15. 2
Death Rate per 1,000 living (standardised)	11.25	9.74
General Death Rate (England and Wales)	11. 7	11. 3
Deaths from Tuberculosis	1	Nil
Deaths from other Infectious Diseases	Nil	Nil
Deaths from accidents	6	7
Deaths from Cancer	19	9

The population figures are for home population and the birth and death rates are based on this population. The standardised rates are arrived at after allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population of the district and give a fairer comparison with those of other areas.



The following table is included to show how the vital statistics compare with those during the past 24 years.

	Population	No. of live births	Crude birth rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death rate	Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.	Cases of Maternal Mortality.
Yearly Av. 1931-35	23,354	275.2	11.8	236.0	10.1	16.2	0.8
Yearly Av. 1936-40	9,304	150.7	16.2	115.2	12.3	7.2	1.5
Yearly Av. 1941-45	10,006	146.0	14.6	102.6	10.2	4.8	0.2
Yearly Av. 1946-50	10,614	161.6	15.2	112.2	10.5	5.2	0.6
1951	11,550	180	15.6	142	12.3	4	Nil
1952	11,570	174	15.0	116	10.0	7	Nil
1953	11,650	212	18.2	115	9.8	3	Nil
1954	11,840	187	15.8	112	9.4	1	Nil
1955	11,990	215	17.9	131	10.9	8	Nil

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - nil.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	5	3	8

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks

Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	3	1	4

The causes of death of these infants were as follows:-

- 1. Lateral sinus thrombosis
- 2. Broncho-pneumonia
- 3. Acute Pneumonitis
- 4. Inanition, hydrocephalus and spina bifida
- 5. Atelectasis, Prematurity)
- 6. Prematurity, Encephalocoele) under 4 weeks.
- 7. Atelectasis, Prematurity)
- 8. Prematurity.

The Death Rate of Infants under 1 year (per 1,000 live births) is 37.2 compared with 24.9 for England and Wales. This is much higher than in 1954 when the rate was 5.34.



DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR

1955, AND CAUSES.

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory tuberculosis	-	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	6	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	2	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	16	22
Coronary disease, angina	14	5	19
Hypertension with Heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart diseases	15	5	20
Other circulatory diseases	4	7	11
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	4	-	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	3	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	4	-	4
Suicide	2	-	2
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	<u>79</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>131</u>

COMMENTS ON THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Out of 131 deaths during the year 88 (67%) were persons over the age of 60 and 109 (83%) were over the age of 50.

The major causes of death were those conditions associated with the older age group viz. those attributed to malignant diseases and those associated with degenerative conditions of the heart and circulatory system.

All the 6 deaths due to accidents were of persons under the age of 50 and accidents have become a major contribution in causing death in persons under this age.

Deaths in age groups are shown below.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 year	5	3	8
1-10 years	-	1	1
11-20 "	1	-	1
21-30 "	3	1	4
31-40 "	1	2	3
41-50 "	5	4	9
51-60 "	14	5	19
61-70 "	17	15	32
71-80 "	18	13	31
81-90 "	16	8	24
91-100 "	-	1	1
	<u>80</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>133</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the cases of infectious disease, other than Tuberculosis notified during the year and classified in age groups.

Notifiable Disease	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & Over	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	8	-	1	6	-	1	-	-	-
Measles	135	2	45	84	2	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	10	2	6	2	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total	157	4	53	93	4	2	-	-	1

The two cases of dysentery were brothers and were of a mild type.

The following table shows comparisons for the last five years (excluding members of H.M. Forces):-

Notifiable Disease	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	1	2	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	7	10	7	15	8
Pneumonia	1	1	2	3	-
Measles	94	39	86	36	135
Whooping Cough	22	3	67	10	10
Dysentery	-	-	-	9	2
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	2
Total:	125	55	162	74	157

TUBERCULOSIS

1. Number of cases at 31st December 1955:-

	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Males	22	7	29
Females	21	5	26
	<u>43</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>55</u>

2. There were two deaths of Tuberculosis patients during the year but in one case the disease was not the primary cause of death and so the case is not shown under the heading of Tuberculosis in the table on page 5.

3. Number of new cases notified during the year.

	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Males	1	-	1
Females	1	1	2
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

FOOD POISONING

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47

No action was necessary under this section during the year.

Section 50

Arrangements were made for the burial of a man without dependants, who died in the district, when it became clear that no arrangements were to be made by other persons.

National Health Act Services, and services
provided by the Cheshire County Council

A. Services provided in accordance with the requirements
of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

1. Hospital Services

Controlling Body - Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Local Hospitals - Administered by North West and Mid Cheshire Hospital
Management Committee.
Secretary - Mr. M.Owen, Administrative Offices,
Altrincham Maternity Home, Sinderland
Road, Altrincham.

Hospitals serving this area:-

General Acute Cases - Cottage Hospital, Knutsford.
Altrincham General Hospital.
Denzell Convalescent Hospital, Bowdon.
General Chronic Cases - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford.

Ear, Nose and Throat - St. Anne's Home, Woodville Road, Altrincham.
Infectious Diseases - Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester.
Smallpox - Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Nr. Bury, Lancs.

A large number of cases from Bucklow are treated in the
Manchester Hospitals.

11. General Practitioner and General Dental Services.

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council for
Cheshire.
Clerk - Mr. F.Hayter, 28, Nicholas Street, Chester.

111. Services of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council

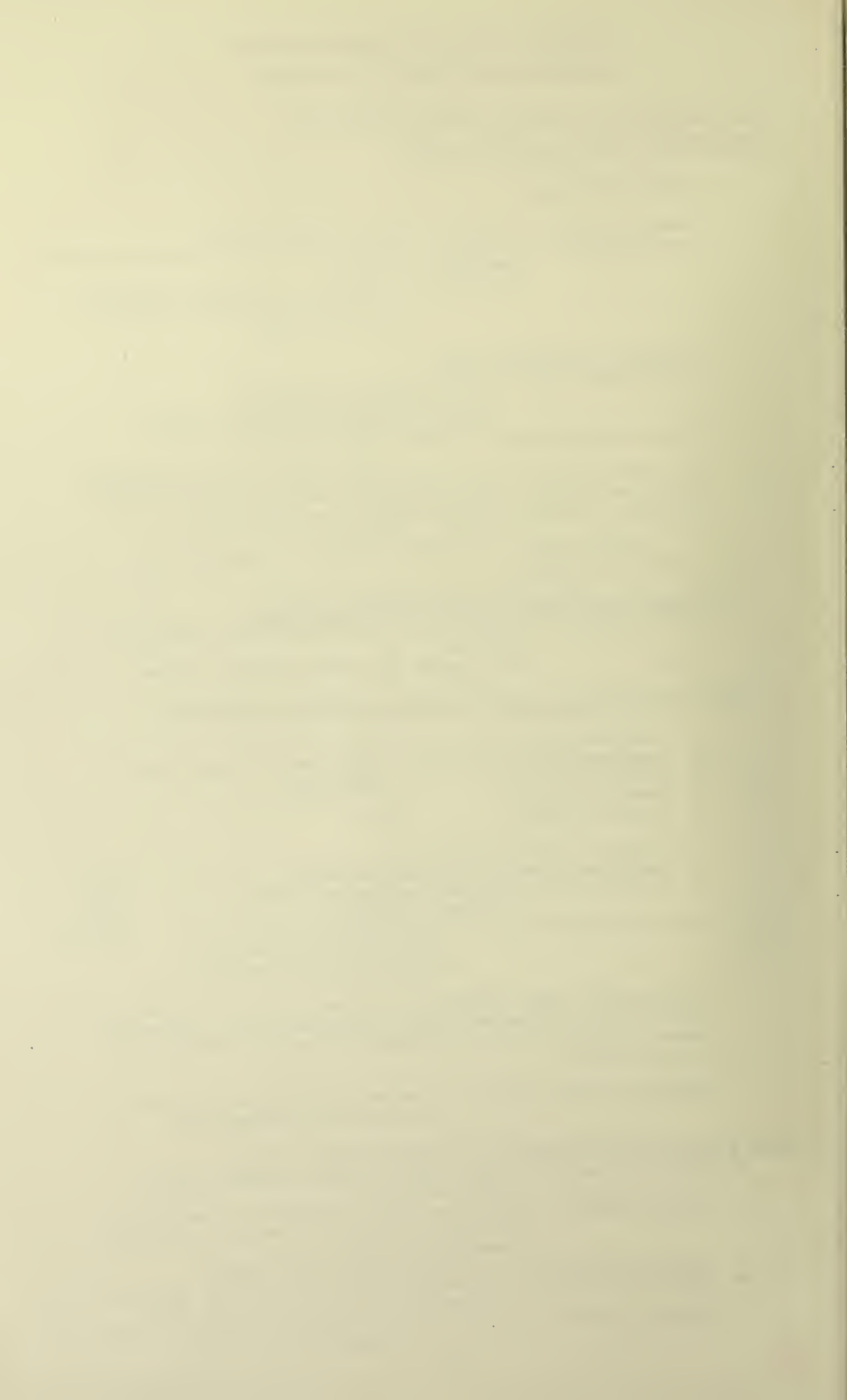
- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Ambulance Service |) | |
| 2. Immunisation and Vaccination |) | Altrincham Divisional Health |
| 3. Care and After Care |) | Committee. |
| 4. Home Help Service |) | |
| 5. Occupation Centre |) | |
| 6. Maternity and Child Welfare |) | |
| 7. Domiciliary Midwifery and District Nursing |) | County |
| 8. Dental Service - Expectant and Nursing Mothers and |) | Council |
| Pre-School children. |) | Health |
| 9. Mental Health Service - Duly Authorised Officer for |) | Committee. |
| Mental Health - Mr. Dixon, |) | |
| 18, Stanley Road, Knutsford.) |) | |

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C.
Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C., and Bucklow R.D.C., and includes
members of those Authorities, members of the County Council, and
Co-opted Members.

Divisional Medical Officer - D.Longbottom, Mountlands, The Mount,
Altrincham, (Altrincham 1733)

B. Other Services by other Committees of Cheshire County Council.

1. Education Committee - School Health Service, including School
Dental Service.
2. Welfare Committee - Old persons, care and attention - homeless,
handicapped persons, provision for residential
accommodation, etc.,
County Welfare Officer - Mr. Evans, Hough Green, Chester.
3. Children's Committee - Provides for the care of Deprived Children
i.e. children not under parental care.
Children's Officer for this area - Mr. Blades, The Council Offices,
Bexton Road, Knutsford.



The following section of the report has been compiled by the Public Health Inspectors to whose work it relates.

VISITS

During the year a total of 1,770 visits were made as follows:-

Housing	193	Drains and Watercourses	50
Council Houses	11	Drainage Nuisances	44
Overcrowding	5	Refuse Nuisances.....	4
Movable Dwellings	168	Water Supplies.....	8
Factories, Outworkers	9	Scavenging	356
Food Premises	21	Cesspool Emptying	15
Milk Samples; Dairies	23	Ashpits; Privy Middens	31
Meat and Food Inspection	494	Dustbins and Closet Pails.....	29
Ice Cream Premises	5	Smoke observations	12
Infectious Disease.....	23	Miscellaneous	113
Disinfestation	6		
Rodent Control	51		
Improvement Grants	99		

HOUSING

Defects and Nuisances

22 complaints concerning disrepair of houses were investigated and informal notices served.

Demolition and Closure

2 houses and 5 temporary dwellings were reported to the Council for action under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936. In addition 2 dwellings reported in December 1954 were dealt with early in 1955.

6 Demolition orders and 1 closing order were made and in the remaining 2 cases, undertakings were accepted from the owners not to use the houses for human habitation.

Overcrowding

A number of cases of overcrowding were investigated and reported to the Housing Tenancy Committee for consideration when letting houses.

New Houses

During the year 44 new council houses were completed and let as follows:-

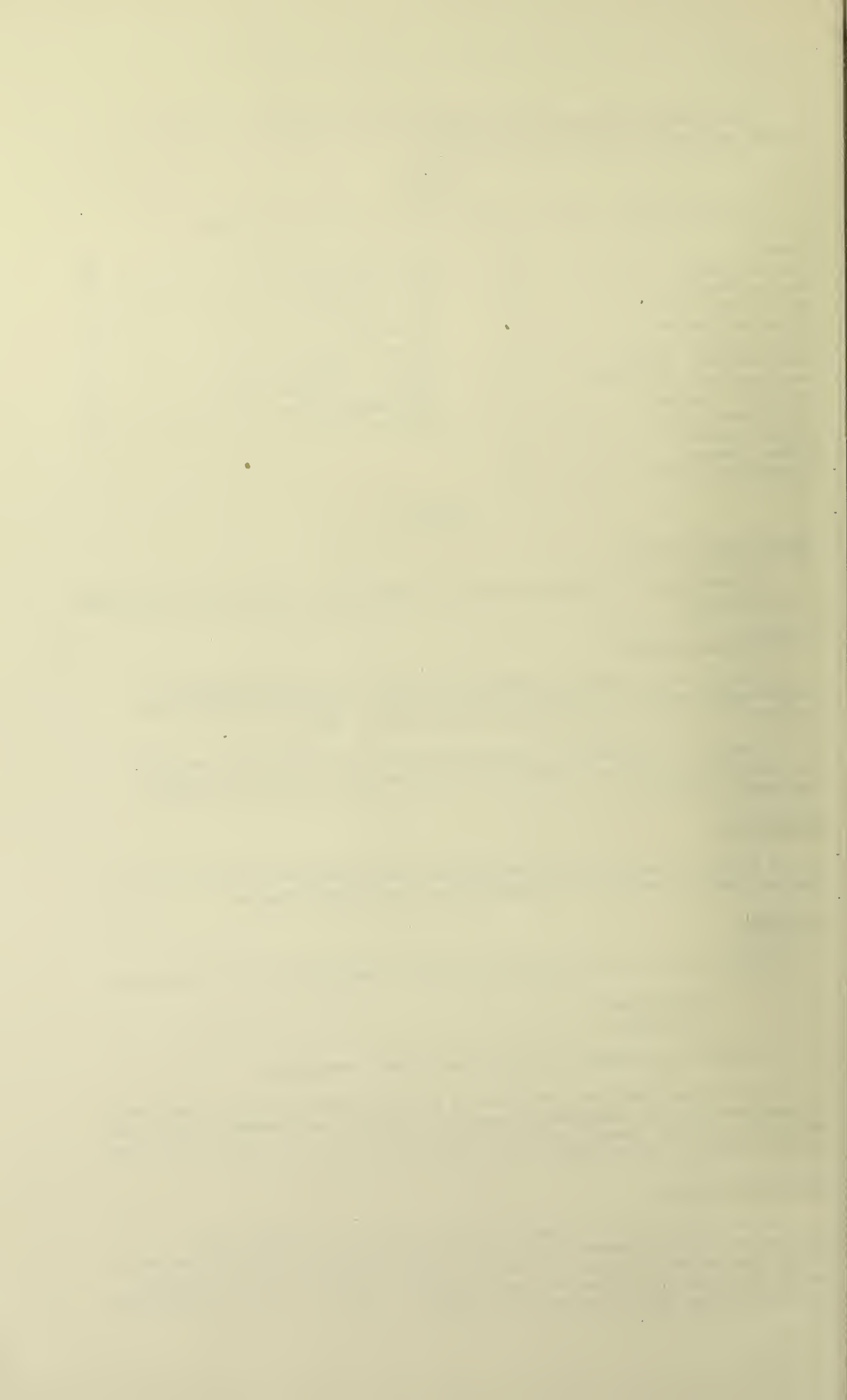
Partington 37
Bollington 7

In addition 38 private enterprise houses were completed.

Of the houses built at Partington 17 were allocated to tenants nominated by neighbouring urban authorities under the overspill arrangements agreed with the Cheshire County Council and 12 to key workers at the Carrington Generating Station nominated by the Central Electricity Authority.

Improvement Grants

In the early part of the year the responsibility for dealing with applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act 1949 was transferred to the Engineer and Surveyor. The Chief Public Health Inspector advises as to the suitability of houses for grant-aid and indicates in each case the work required to meet the conditions of the grant.



During the year 17 Improvement Grants were made representing a total sum of £4,857. A number of owners withdrew their applications on learning of the amount of repair work necessary to their property to qualify for grant.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

The survey commenced in 1954 was continued and the Council were able to submit to the Minister their proposals for dealing with the unfit houses in the district. These showed that a total of 78 unfit houses were proposed to be dealt with in accordance with Section 11 of the 1936 Act, i.e. as individual unfit houses.

Only one application was received for a certificate of disrepair and this was as a result of a proposed increase of rent under the 1920 Act. The certificate was granted and is still in force although the repairs have been carried out.

Movable Dwellings

A great deal of time was again devoted to the control of the many movable dwellings in the district. Being on the fringe of a large conurbation it is not surprising to find that there is a demand for weekend recreational facilities in the district. From the public health angle, the main difficulties arise from the common practice of caravans being left on their sites all the year round and only visited by their owners at intervals and the difficulties of preventing caravans being occupied as regular dwellings when they are of a type and in situations only suitable for holiday use.

Outside Pickmere there are 7 licensed sites with a total of 109 movable dwellings authorised. A further 57 movable dwellings on 23 sites were licensed at the end of the year.

In spite of the time devoted to the control of the 500 odd movable dwellings in the district, proper control is becoming increasingly difficult with the present staff and the inadequate legal powers contained in the Public Health Act 1936. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the Town and Country Planning Act offers the most satisfactory means of control of movable dwellings.

At Pickmere further progress was made in controlling the area and eradicating the unsuitable structures around the lake. Of the 341 structures in the area in 1952 when serious attention began to be given to this problem 106 had been removed by the end of 1955 and a further 19 were scheduled for removal. 25 new caravans had been stationed on approved sites in place of buses and shacks removed.

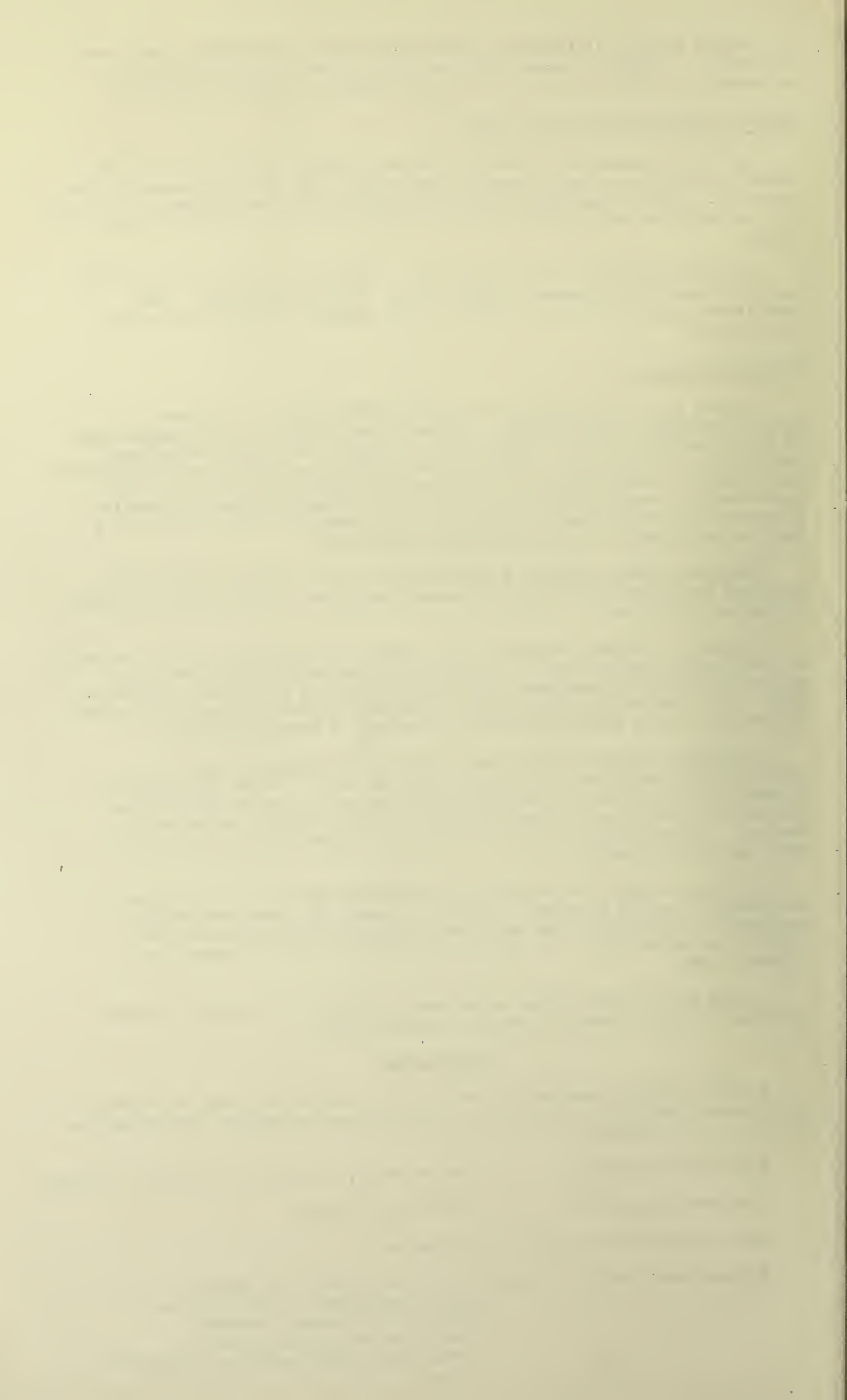
In March an appeal was heard at the Northwich Magistrates Court against the Council's refusal to grant a licence in respect of a converted poultry shed used as a dwelling. The appeal was dismissed but the structure was still in use at the end of the year and formed the subject of further court action in 1956.

A good deal of work remains to be done at Pickmere but there is a steady improvement in the standard of movable dwellings there.

WATER SUPPLY

A mains supply is provided in every parish, with the exception of Tatton, by the Council and other authorities. The statutory undertakers for the various parishes are as follows:-

Manchester Corporation	- Dunham Massey, Carrington, Partington, Ringway.
Stockport Corporation	- Mobberley, Marthall.
Lymm Urban District Council	- Warburton.
Bucklow Rural District Council	- Agden, Ashley, Aston by Budworth, Bexton, Bollington, High-Legh, Mere, Millington, Pickmere, Rostherne, Tabley Inferior, Tabley Superior, - bulk supply from Manchester Corporation.



- (b) Ollerton, Peover Superior, Peover Inferior, Toft,
- bulk supply from Stockport Corporation.
- (c) Plumley.
- bulk supply from the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board.

The supply has been satisfactory in all parishes, and with the exception of the parishes of Ollerton, Peover Superior, Peover Inferior, and Toft, the supply has been adequate. A scheme for improving the supply in those parishes is to be put in hand at the first opportunity; meanwhile applications for new trade supplies, especially for cattle drinking troughs, are having to be refused.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The cesspool emptying machine although primarily engaged on pail closet emptying, was employed to empty 91 cesspools and septic tanks. The income of £158 from this work more than offset the additional wages paid in overtime to the men employed. Several tanks situated in inaccessible positions could not be emptied by the machine. The Sewerage Scheme at Partington was officially opened in September and a survey was made of the houses with pail closets and privy middens which it is hoped to convert as soon as possible.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection of refuse and night soil continued on a weekly basis so far as practicable and further extensions to the rounds were found possible.

The tips at Agden and Pickmere continued in use and may last a further three to four years.

The tip at Warford opened in 1951 was completed, soiled and bulldozed level during the summer leaving only a small corner near the road to be completed at the end of the year. The cost of this work was about £250. In May the new tip at Mobberley was opened. It is estimated that this tip, serving all parishes east of the main Manchester-Chester Road except Mere and Rostherne will last ten to twelve years but this time can be extended if soil is removed to enlarge the tipping space.

Indeed this soil will have to be removed to cover the reclaimed land and to this end it is becoming imperative to purchase an excavator for this work.

Staff difficulties continued to be a problem and it is difficult to see a solution to this under present conditions of full employment.

Pail closets are emptied by the cesspool emptying machine and one small refuse freighter fitted with a tank.

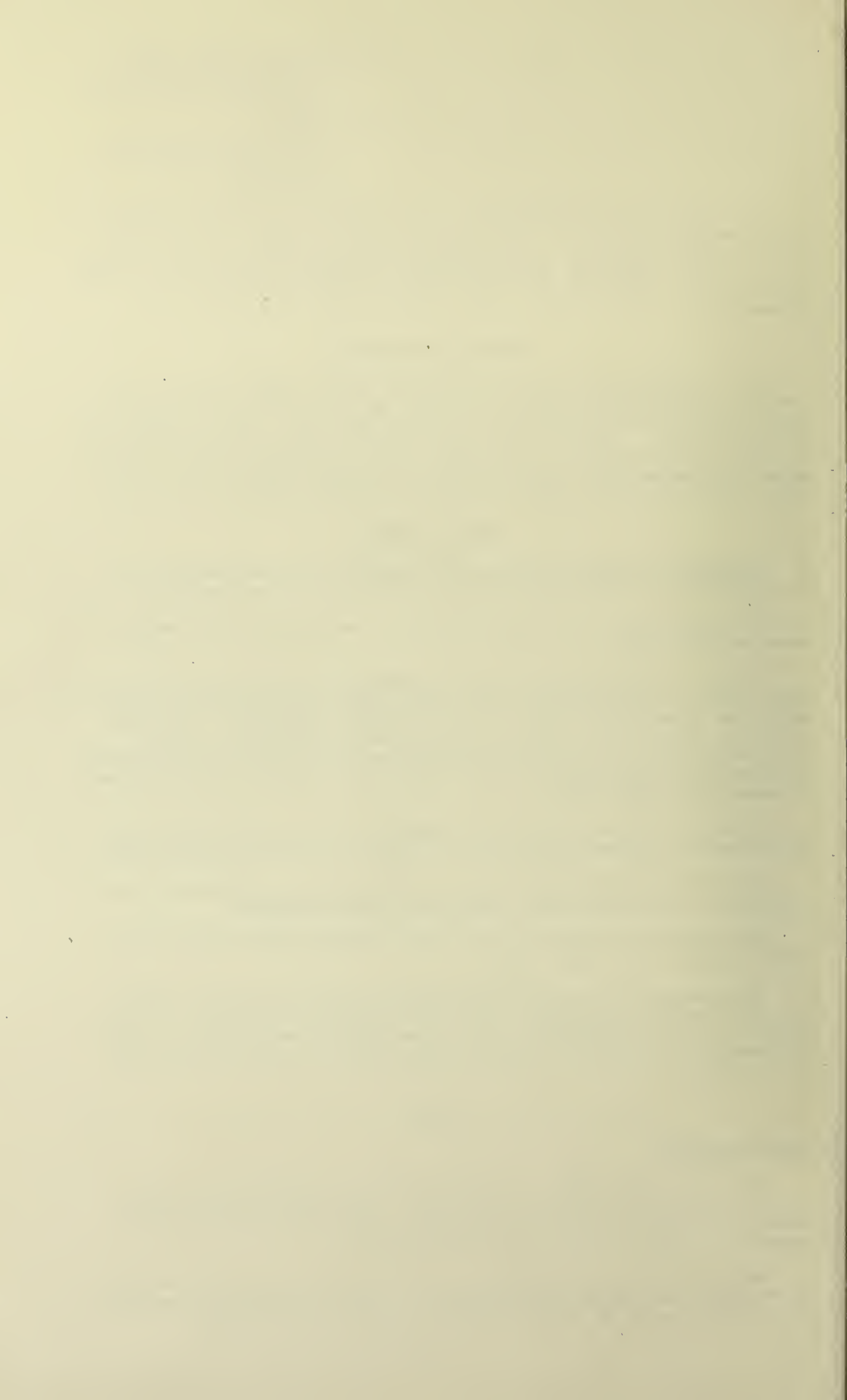
Privy middens still exist in the district but it is pleasing to report that four were abolished during the year leaving 20 at the year end, all within the sewered area at Partington. It is to be earnestly hoped that, now that the sewers at Partington are complete, these primitive conveniences will soon be abolished.

MILK

1. Milk Distributors

There are a large number of producer-retailers of ungraded milk, and a few producers retail Tuberculin Tested Milk. Most of the designated milk, however, is retailed by dairy firms operating from outside the district although one farmer has his own pasteurising plant.

During the year one distributor of milk was registered bringing the total to two dairies and twenty-six distributors. It is now thought that very few, if any, distributors who are not registered operate in the district.



Designated Milk

12 dealers' licences and 46 supplementary licences to use special designations were issued as follows :-

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Dealers' Licences</u>	<u>Supplementary Licences</u>
Pasteurised	5	18
Sterilised	2	9
Tuberculin Tested	5	19

Tuberculous Milk

The County Medical Officer notified 8 cases where positive biological tests for tuberculosis had been obtained from samples of milk taken on dairy farms in the district. As a result of the mixing of samples to reduce the number of guinea pigs used, these represented the milk from 16 different herds.

In each case enquiries were made to ascertain whether the milk was being sold in the raw state, but in all cases it was found that it was being sold wholesale to large pasteurising establishments in neighbouring areas.

Milk Sampling

The following samples were taken during the year :-

	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Results</u>	
	<u>taken</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
Pasteurised (including T.T.Pasteurised)	10	9	1
Tuberculin Tested	11	9	2

ICE CREAM

There is only one manufacturer of ice cream in the district where a complete cold mix is used. The premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition and samples taken were satisfactory.

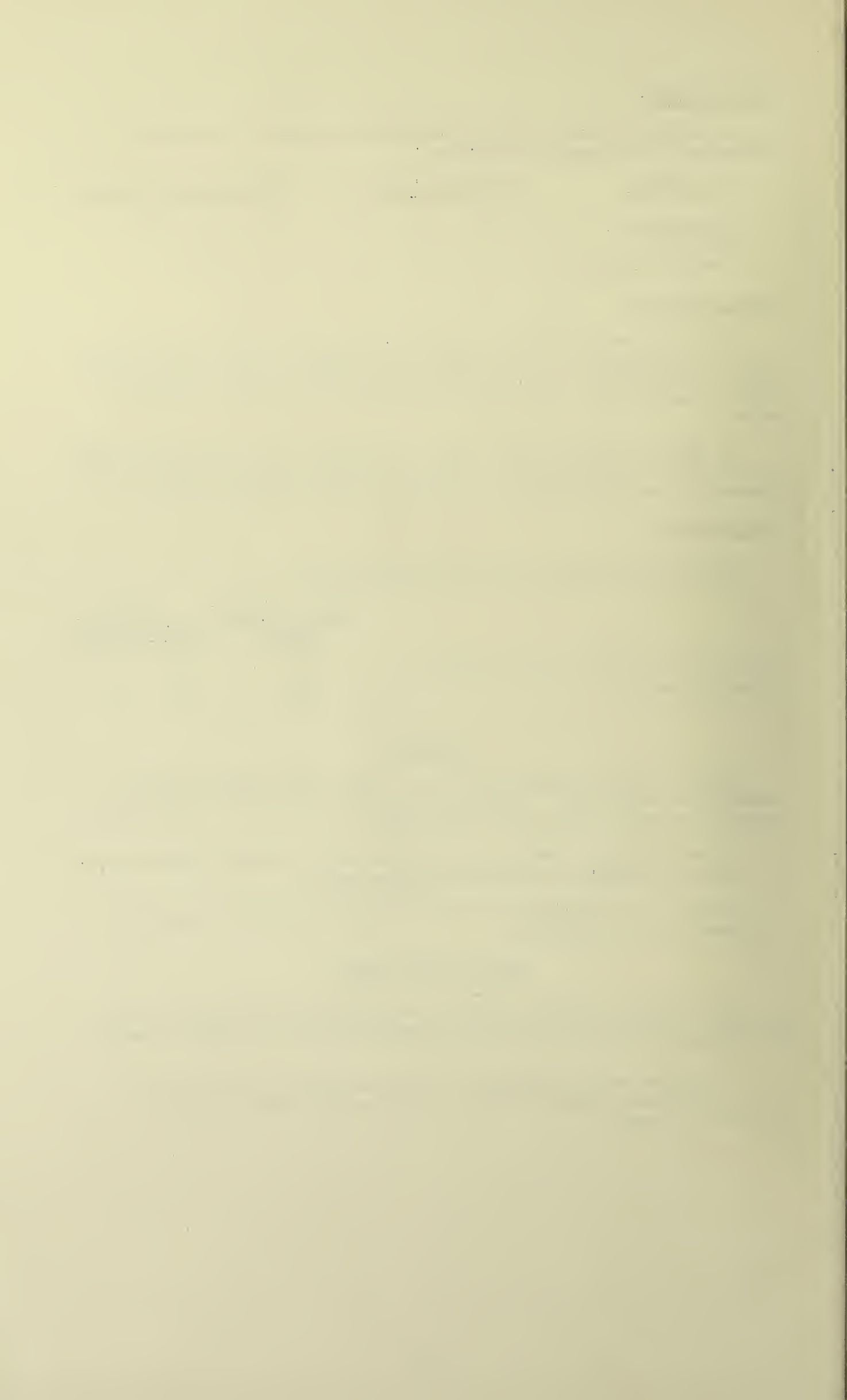
3 premises used for the sale of Ice Cream were registered during the year bringing the total of registered premises to 16.

2 samples of Ice Cream were taken and both were placed in Provisional Grade 1 by the Laboratory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The inspection of meat at private slaughterhouses involved many visits and regular weekend work by the Public Health Inspectors but 100% inspection was maintained.

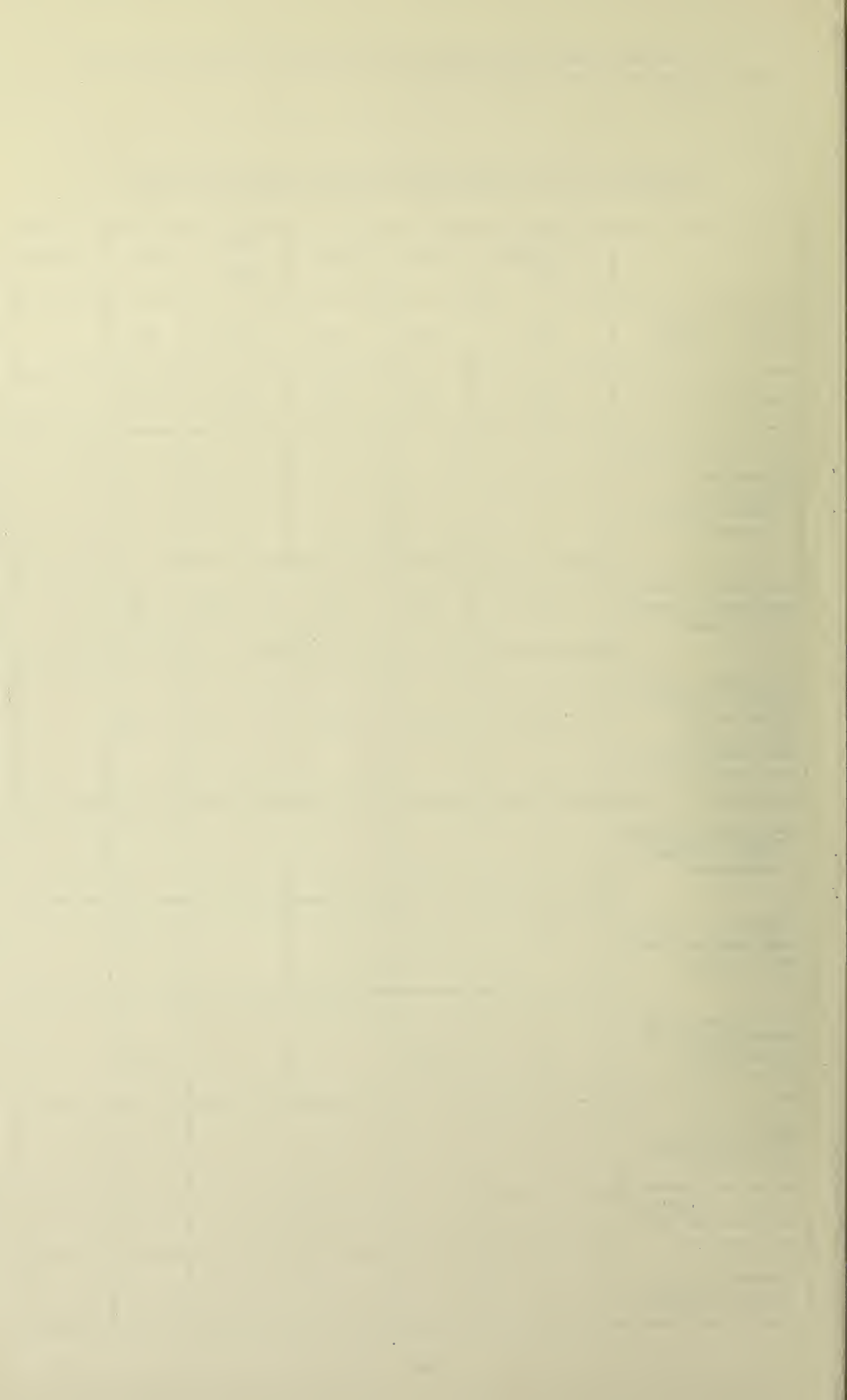
In addition small consignments of fresh Kosher beef and offals were landed at Manchester Airport at more or less regular weekly intervals throughout the year.



The following table gives details of the carcasses and offals inspected and condemned in private slaughterhouses:-

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed(if known)	207	265	70	2240	481	-
Number inspected	207	265	70	2240	481	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	3	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	37	83	2	109	35	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	17.4	31.3	2.9	5	7.3	
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	54	-	-	16	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.7	20.7	-	-	3.5	
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-



FOOD PREMISES

The time given to the inspection of food premises was again not as great as desired owing to the pressure of other work, notably the survey required by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act.

21 inspections were made of premises where food is sold or prepared. One butchers preparation room used for sausages etc., was registered.

SWIMMING BATHS

There is only one public swimming bath in the district. This is an open-air bath used only in the summer and owing to the exceptional summer it was heavily patronised. No contravention of the byelaws was found and samples of the water proved satisfactory.

FACTORIES

There are 47 factories in the district, all but 8 being factories with power in which the Council are only responsible for the enforcement of Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1938, relating to sanitary conveniences.

8 factories were inspected and in 2 cases informal notices were served relating to sanitary accommodation.

PET SHOPS

One premises where trade is carried on in tropical birds, fish and small animals is licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 to 1954

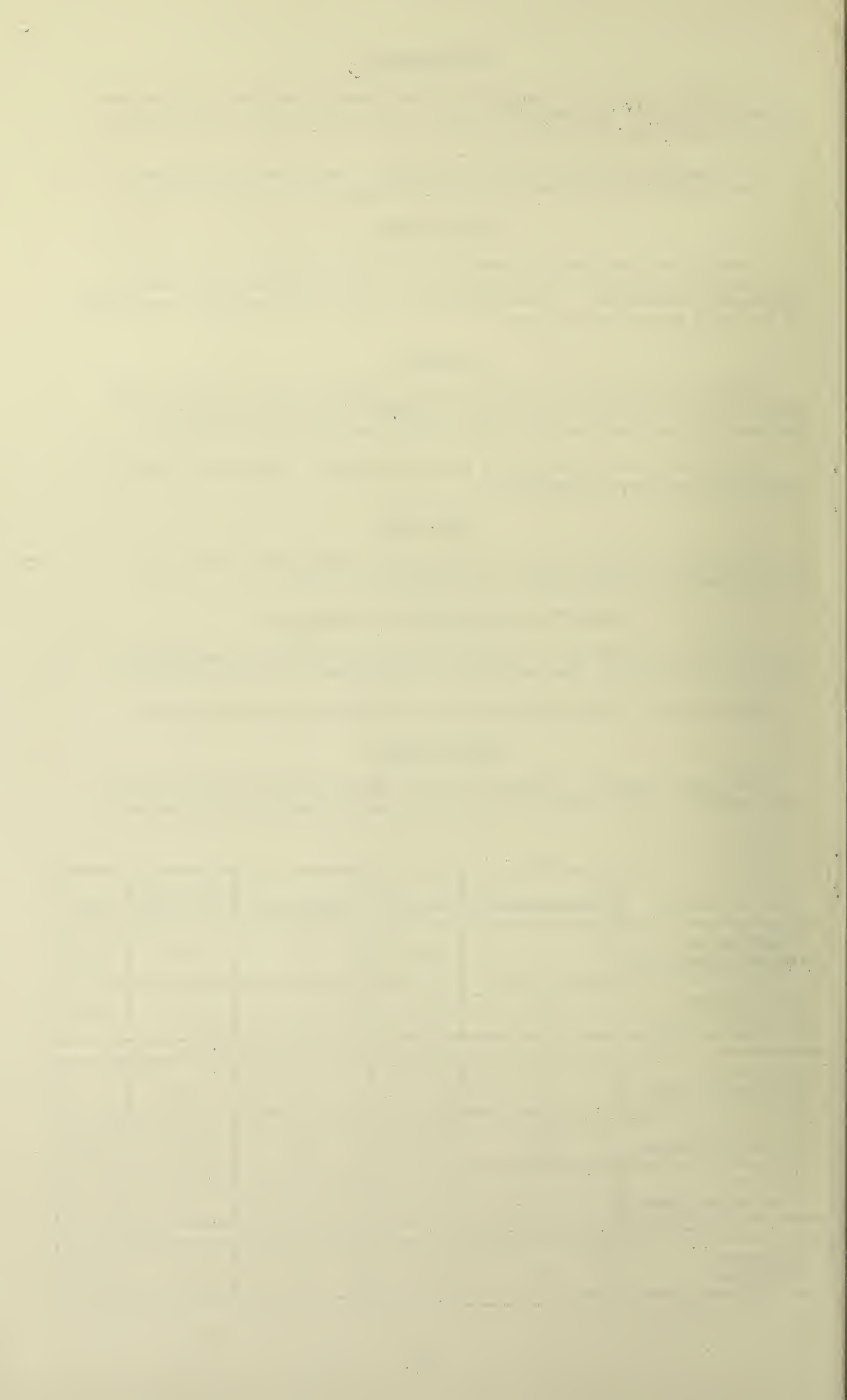
5 initial licences and 18 renewal licences were issued authorising the holders to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughterhouse or knackers yard.

No evidence of contravention of the Acts and Regulations was noted.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ a full-time operator for this work and the following table shows the actual number of inspections and treatments carried out :-

Type of Property	Local Authority	Private	Agricultural	Business and other	Total
Inspection made following complaint	-	130	3	37	170
Inspection made in Routine Surveys	37	219	61	37	354
Major Rat Infestations found	2	-	1	4	7
Minor Rat Infestations found	19	80	16	23	138
Major Mice Infestations found	-	24	1	6	31
Treatments carried out	15	92	2	31	140



In the case of the Council's tips and sewage disposal works, frequent visits were made and several treatments carried out at many sites.

The figures also show treatments of hedgerows and waste land where ownership is often difficult to establish.

All 18 sewer systems were test-baited during the year. In six cases partial bait takes were recorded and a full treatment given with a further check after six months when 2 proved positive again and were given a second treatment.

It is impossible to test the sewers at Mere and High Legh owing to the manholes being completely inaccessible.
